STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH BUREAU OF HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

In re: John Pollock, D.V.M.

Petition No. 2001-1016-047-029

## CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, John Pollock of South Woodstock (hereinafter "respondent") has been issued license number 002774 to practice veterinary medicine by the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") pursuant to Chapter 384 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, the Department alleges that:

- 1. During October 2000 and/or November 2000 respondent took x-rays of a racehorse in connection with a potential sale of the horse. Respondent examined the x-rays for problems with separation of joint cartilage from underlying bone, for inflammation of bone and its cartilage, and for bone ossification. Respondent reported to the owner that the horse had no significant problems. Respondent had not detected from the x-rays that the horse had inflammation of the bone and its cartilage in its shin bone and arch areas.
- 2. The above described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §20-202, including, but not limited to §20-202(2).

WHEREAS, respondent, in consideration of this Consent Order, has chosen not to contest the above allegations of wrongdoing but, while admitting no guilt or wrongdoing, agrees that for purposes of this or any future proceedings before the Connecticut Board of Veterinary Medicine

(hereinafter "the Board"), this Consent Order shall have the same effect as if proven and ordered after a full hearing held pursuant to §§19a-10, 19a-14 and 20-202 of the General Statutes of Connecticut.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to §§19a-14, 19a-17 and 20-202 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, respondent hereby stipulates and agrees to the following:

- 1. Respondent waives his right to a hearing on the merits of this matter.
- 2. Respondent's license shall be placed on probation for a period of six (6) months under the following terms and conditions:
  - a. Respondent shall obtain at his own expense, the services of a veterinarian, preapproved by the Department (hereinafter "supervisor"), to conduct a monthly
    random review of one hundred percent (100%) or twenty (20) of respondent's x-ray
    interpretations, whichever is the larger number. In the event respondent performs
    twenty (20) or fewer x-ray interpretations, the supervisor shall review all of
    respondent's x-ray interpretations.
    - (1) Respondent's supervisor shall conduct such review and meet with him not less than once every month for the duration of the probationary period.
    - (2) The supervisor shall have the right to monitor respondent's practice by any other reasonable means which he or she deems appropriate. Respondent shall fully cooperate with the supervisor in providing such monitoring.
    - (3) Respondent shall be responsible for the supervisor providing a written report to the Department fifteen (15) days prior to the completion of the probationary period. Such supervisory report shall include documentation of dates and

duration of meetings with respondent, number and a general description of the x-ray interpretations reviewed, additional monitoring techniques utilized, and statement that respondent is practicing with reasonable skill and safety. The supervisor shall provide immediate notice to the Department if at any time respondent is not practicing with reasonable skill and safety.

- b. During the probationary period, respondent shall attend and successfully complete sixteen (16) hours of courses in radiography and radiographic interpretation, preapproved by the Department. Within one (1) month of the completion of such course work, respondent shall provide the Department with proof, to the Department's satisfaction, of the successful completion of such course(s).
- 3. All correspondence and reports are to be addressed to:

Bonnie Pinkerton, Nurse Consultant Department of Public Health Division of Health Systems Regulation 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12HSR P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308

- 4. All reports required by the terms of this Consent Order shall be due according to a schedule to be established by the Department of Public Health.
- Respondent shall comply with all state and federal statutes and regulations applicable to his licensure.
- 6. Respondent shall pay all costs necessary to comply with this Consent Order.
- 7. Any alleged violation of any provision of this Consent Order may result in the following procedures at the discretion of the Department:

- a. The Department shall notify respondent in writing by first-class mail that the term(s) of this Consent Order have been violated, provided that no prior written consent for deviation from said term(s) has been granted.
- b. Said notification shall include the acts or omission(s) which violate the term(s) of this Consent Order.
- c. Respondent shall be allowed fifteen (15) days from the date of the mailing of notification required in paragraph 7a above to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department that he has complied with the terms of this Consent Order or, in the alternative, that he has cured the violation in question.
- d. If respondent does not demonstrate compliance or cure the violation by the limited fifteen (15) day date certain contained in the notification of violation to the satisfaction of the Department, he shall be entitled to a hearing before the Board which shall make a final determination of the disciplinary action to be taken.
- e. Evidence presented to the Board by either the Department or respondent in any such hearing shall be limited to the alleged violation(s) of the term(s) of this Consent Order.
- 8. In the event respondent violates any term of this Consent Order, respondent agrees immediately to refrain from practicing as a veterinarian, upon request by the Department, for a period not to exceed 45 days. During that time period, respondent further agrees to cooperate with the Department in its investigation of the violation. Respondent further agrees that failure to cooperate with the Department in its investigation during said 45 day period shall constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of respondent's license. In any such summary action, respondent stipulates that failure to

- cooperate with the Department's investigation shall constitute an admission that his conduct constitutes a clear and immediate danger as required pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, sections 4-182(c) and 19a-17(c).
- 9. In the event respondent violates any term of this Consent Order, said violation may also constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of his license before the Board.
- 10. In the event respondent is not employed as a veterinarian for periods of thirty (30) consecutive days or longer, or is employed as a veterinarian less than twenty (20) hours per week, or is employed outside of the State of Connecticut, respondent shall notify the Department in writing. Such periods of time shall not be counted in reducing the probationary period covered by this Consent Order.
- 11. Legal notice shall be sufficient if sent to respondent's last known address of record reported to the Office of Practitioner Licensing and Certification of the Bureau of Healthcare Systems of the Department.
- 12. This Consent Order is effective on the first day of the month immediately following the date this Consent Order is accepted and ordered by the Board.
- 13. Respondent agrees that this Consent Order shall be deemed a public document, and the Department's allegations as contained in this Consent Order shall be deemed true in any subsequent proceeding before the Board in which his compliance with this Consent Order or with §20-202 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, is at issue.
- 14. Any extension of time or grace period for reporting granted by the Department shall not be a waiver or preclude the Department from taking action at a later time. The Department shall not be required to grant future extensions of time or grace periods.

- 15. This Consent Order and terms set forth herein are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review under any form or in any forum. Further, this Order is not subject to appeal or review under the provisions of Chapters 54 or 368a of the General Statutes of Connecticut, provided that this stipulation shall not deprive respondent of any rights that he may have under the laws of the State of Connecticut or of the United States.
- 16. This Consent Order is a revocable offer of settlement which may be modified by mutual agreement or withdrawn by the Department at any time prior to its being executed by the last signatory.
- 17. Respondent permits a representative of the Legal Office of the Bureau of Healthcare

  Systems to present this Consent Order and the factual basis for this Consent Order to the

  Board. Respondent understands that the Board has complete and final discretion as to

  whether this executed Consent Order is approved or accepted.
- 18. Respondent has the right to consult with an attorney prior to signing this document.
- 19. The execution of this document has no bearing on any criminal liability without the written consent of the Director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit or the Bureau Chief of the Division of Criminal Justice's Statewide Prosecution Bureau.

I, John Pollock, have read the above Consent Order, and I stipulate and agree to the terms as set
forth therein. I further declare the execution of this Consent Order to be my free act and deed.
John Pollock, D.V.M.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this
Notary Public or person authorized by law to administer an oath or affirmation My Commess Expused 6/35/07
The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the
Commissioner of the Department of Public Health on the 28th day of
October 2003, it is hereby accepted.
Stanley K. Peck, Director, Legal Office Bureau of Healthcare Systems
The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the Connecticut
Board of Veterinary Medicine on the 12th day of November 2003, it
is hereby ordered and accepted.
Connecticut Board of Veterinary Medicine

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

June 29, 2004

John Pollock, D.M.V. P.O. Box 87 So. Woodstock, CT 06267

Re:

Consent Order

Petition No. 2001-1016-047-029

License No. 002774 D.O.B.

Dear Dr. Pollock:

Please accept this letter as notice that you have satisfied the terms of your license probation, effective June 1, 2004.

Notice will be sent to the Department's Licensure and Registration section to remove all restrictions from your license related to the above-referenced Consent Order.

Please be certain to retain this letter as documented proof that you have completed your license probation.

Thank you for your cooperation during this process.

Respectfully,

Olive Tronchin

Division of Health Systems Regulation

c: J. Fillippone



Phone: (860) 509-7400

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